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Identical letters dated 10 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

On 29 November 2010, two prominent Iranian physicists, Majid Shahriari and Fereydoun Abbasi Davani, were targeted in two separate terrorist attacks in Tehran. As a result, Majid Shahriari was martyred and Fereydoun Abbasi Davani and his wife were seriously injured. As you are aware, this was not the first time that scientists engaged in the peaceful nuclear programme of Iran came under malicious terrorist attack. Professor Massoud Ali Mohammadi, another Iranian scientist, was assassinated in front of his house on 12 January 2010.

Based on the available evidence collected by the relevant Iranian security authorities, certain quarters, which have spared no efforts in depriving the Islamic Republic of Iran of its inalienable right to peaceful nuclear energy, are behind the attacks. As has been claimed by the same circles, these terrorist acts have been carried out as part of the efforts to disrupt Iran's peaceful nuclear programme, since they assume that diplomacy alone would not be enough for that purpose.

Now, the question is whether we are entering an era where resorting to all unlawful and coercive measures, even terrorist acts, to prevent developing nations from exercising their right to development, including peaceful uses of nuclear energy to improve their socio-economic conditions, is allowed?

While reiterating, once again, the peaceful nature of Iranian nuclear activities, I would like to emphasize that the Islamic Republic of Iran would not compromise over its inalienable right to use nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, and no kind of political and economic pressure or terrorist attacks targeting the Iranian nuclear scientists could prevent our nation from exercising this right.

The Islamic Republic of Iran expresses its deep concern about, and strong condemnation of, such cruel, inhuman and criminal acts of terrorism against Iranian scientists. My country has suffered the most from acts of terrorism in terms of human loss and material damages in the past decades. You as the Secretary-General

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of the United Nations, and the Security Council as well, are expected to uphold your responsibilities in condemning these inhumane terrorist acts and to take effective steps towards the elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

It would be appreciated if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad **Khazaee**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative